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August 1, 2002

RECEIVED

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

AUG - 1 2002

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: <u>CC Docket No. 00-257: Carrier Change Verification for CenturyTel of Missouri, L.L.C.</u>

Dear Ms. Dortch:

CenturyTel of Missouri, L.L.C. ("CenturyTel"), pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 64.1120(e) of the Commission's Rules, herein notifies the Commission of its planned acquisition of another telecommunications carrier's subscribers. As required by that rule section, CenturyTel provides the following information:

- a. <u>Names of the Parties to the Transaction</u>: Verizon Midwest (Transferor); CenturyTel of Missouri, L.L.C. (Transferee). Both Transferor and Transferee are registered carriers in the State of Missouri. Subscribers acquired by this transaction will be served by CenturyTel.
- b. <u>Types of Telecommunications Services Provided to Affected Subscribers</u>: CenturyTel will provide local exchange and intraLATA toll services.
- c. <u>Date of the Transfer</u>: CenturyTel notified Verizon customers of the transfer via letters that were mailed during the period July 19 through July 31. The parties intend to transfer the customers on September 1, 2002.
- d. <u>Certification of Compliance</u>: CenturyTel's certification that it will comply with the required procedures for the customer base transfer, including the provision of advance written notice to all affected subscribers, is appended hereto as Attachment A.
- e. <u>Copy of Notice Sent to Affected Subscribers</u>: A copy of the notice CenturyTel sent to affected subscribers, in compliance with the Commission's rules, is appended hereto as Attachment B.

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Please direct any questions concerning this matter to me.

Very truly yours,

Karen Brinkmann Counsel to CenturyTel



ATTACHMENT A

CERTIFICATION OF CENTURYTEL OF MISSOURI, L.L.C.

On behalf of CenturyTel of Missouri, L.L.C. ("CenturyTel"), and in accordance with Section 64.1120 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 64.1120, I hereby certify that:

- 1. Under penalty of perjury, I have read the foregoing document, and the statements therein are true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- 2. CenturyTel will comply with the required Federal Communications Commission procedures for the transfer of certain Verizon Midwest ("Verizon") customers to CenturyTel, including the provision of advanced written notice to all affected Verizon customers.

CenturyTel of Missouri, L.L.C.

By: John Jonn

Name: John F. Jones

Title: Vice President Federal Government Relations

Date: 7/31/02



On behalf of CenturyTel, I'd like to welcome you as a customer. As announced in October 2001, CenturyTel has entered into an agreement to acquire local telephone properties in Missouri from Verizon. Consequently, Verizon and CenturyTel are working together to transfer your local telephone service to CenturyTel smoothly and without interruption. Your local telephone number will NOT change. The actual transfer will occur on or about September 1, 2002.

Please note that:

- CenturyTel will convert your service at no cost to you.
- No calls to CenturyTel are necessary to maintain your existing service.
- No service feature changes will be made during this conversion.
- Your local telephone billing information will be transferred to CenturyTel.
- Until the date of actual transfer, Verizon will be responsible for all customer care and billing issues. CenturyTel is not responsible for any complaints filed prior to the transfer from Verizon, and these complaints should be directed to Verizon.
- If your local IntraLATA* toll calls (long distance calls within your local calling zone) are currently provided by GTE Midwest Incorporated dba Verizon Midwest, CenturyTel will automatically become your provider for these calls unless you select a different carrier before the transfer date. If you had arranged a preferred carrier freeze on this service being transferred, that freeze will be lifted prior to the transfer. In order to reinstate a preferred carrier freeze on this service after the transfer, you must contact CenturyTel.
- Your other toll services (interstate, international or state InterLATA* long distance) provided by Verizon Long Distance or any other long distance carrier will remain with that carrier. You will soon be receiving information about long distance plans from CenturyTel Long Distance, Inc.
- Your local telephone service will be converted to CenturyTel, unless you have chosen a carrier other than Verizon for this service prior to the transfer date. If you had arranged a preferred carrier freeze on your local telephone service with Verizon, that freeze will be lifted prior to the transfer. In order to reinstate a preferred carrier freeze on this service after the transfer, you must contact CenturyTel. You may choose another carrier to provide your local or long distance service subject to availability; however, if you make a change in service providers, penalties may apply under your existing contract(s) with your local or long distance provider.
- You will receive your first telephone bill from CenturyTel in September or early October. It will include information about payment, as well as a guide that points out elements of your bill. You will be billed under the same rates, terms and conditions as those for your existing services with Verizon. You will be notified of future changes, if any, to these items via mail or in your bill.

Because of the switch to CenturyTel, your billing cycle may change. Therefore, you may receive your CenturyTel bill on a different day of the month than your Verizon bill. If the amount of your first CenturyTel bill seems to be for more or less than one month's service charges, it is because it has been prorated to accommodate the billing transition. Your second bill will reflect charges for one full month of service.

CenturyTel is committed to providing dependable, affordable communications services for our customers. We appreciate your understanding during this transition and look forward to serving you. Our customer contact number is 800.201.4099 for residential customers; and 800.201.4102 for business customers.

Once again, welcome to CenturyTel. We're making connections that count.

Sincerely,

Ken Matzdorff

Region Vice President

^{*}In addition to area codes, all states are divided into geographical areas called LATAs (Local Access Transport Areas). A long distance call from one point to another point within a LATA is an IntraLATA call. A long distance call placed to a point outside a LATA is an InterLATA call.